

**IQRS User Review Panel (URP) Meeting
November 9, 2005
Fairfax, VA**

Minutes and User Recommendations

The purpose of this document is to provide a synopsis of the November 2005 IQRS URP Meeting, and to record the recommendations provided by the IQRS users. These recommendations will be reviewed by the Data Banks for possible incorporation.

The meeting convened at approximately 9:05 a.m. on November 9, 2005. Introductory remarks and administrative items were presented by NPDB-HIPDB Project Manager, Mr. Frank Shartle. In addition, Mr. Shartle provided an update on IQRS URP recommendations from the previous IQRS URP Meeting held October 19, 2004.

Mr. Aaron Hawes, NPDB-HIPDB Software Manager, presented the evolution of the Data Banks, noting awards, milestones, and system improvements that have taken place over the 15 years that the NPDB has existed. Ms. Sandy Rosenblatt, NPDB-HIPDB Information Systems Security Officer, described enhancements to IQRS security password policy and explained the function and process of the Data Banks Plan of Action and Milestones (POA&M). She also discussed future Data Bank security enhancements. Mr. Darryl Gray, Contracting Officer Technical Representative and Deputy Chief of the Practitioner Data Banks Branch (PDBB), opened the floor to discussion and feedback from the URP participants. The URP group discussed operational recommendations regarding draft reports, narratives and report codes (see the URP Recommendations section below).

The meeting reconvened, after a lunch break, with Mr. Hawes discussing future system improvements and considerations. These additional enhancements will include migrating on-line Data Bank services to *www.npdb-hipdb.hrsa.gov*, IQRS historical query and report summary enhancements, entity/agent relationship enhancements, enhancing IQRS Security, and querying via the Querying and Reporting XML Service (QRXS). Detailed information about software releases will appear in future issues of the Data Bank newsletter, *NPDB-HIPDB Data Bank News*. Ms. Nancy Ciranni, NPDB-HIPDB Operations Manager, provided an overview of the current Data Bank registration renewal process. All entities are currently renewing their registration information with the Data Banks and will now be required to re-register every two years. Ms. Ciranni's presentation was followed by Ms. Betsy Ranslow, Senior Associate for External Relations, PDBB, who discussed the implementation of Section 1921, the possible implementation of a Proactive Disclosure Service (PDS) for the Data Banks and Data Bank educational and compliance activities. Mr. Darryl Gray conducted a second discussion and feedback session. The Meeting ended with Mr. Shartle summarizing the day's events and answering remaining questions about the meeting. The IQRS URP meeting ended at 3:15 p.m.

URP Recommendations

1. **Extend the Time Period to Search for IQRS Historical Summaries:** Several IQRS users recommended that the Data Banks extend the timeframe for historical query and historical report search results to the opening of the Data Banks, e.g., September 1990.
2. **Extend the Time Period to View an IQRS Response On-Line:** IQRS users would like the query and report responses to be available for 45 to 60 days from the submission date.
3. **Revise Report Formats to Increase the Number of Mandatory Data Fields:** Users commented that the Data Banks should consider forcing reporters to enter narrative information in Adverse Action Reports and Judgment or Conviction Reports by breaking down the sections on-screen and making them mandatory.

PDBB reported that the revised guidebook will include guidelines for writing Adverse Action Report narrative descriptions and that these guidelines will be published on the NPDB-HIPDB Web site in December 2005.

4. **Expand Sort Options for IQRS Query Responses:** Several users would like to be able to sort subjects in IQRS batch query responses grouped by those who have reports in the Data Bank(s) and those who do not.
5. **Review the Adverse Action Classification Codes for Suspension/Probation:** Users requested that the Data Banks review the suspension and probation codes. Only one code is available to licensing boards for "Suspension," which is not adequate. Additional codes such as "Summary Suspension" should be added. In addition, State Boards need to be reminded of their responsibility to file "Revision to Action" reports in situations such as when a practitioner is taken off of an indefinite probation (e.g., Probation with terms and conditions). "Stays" are not reportable, however, another action that is taken under the same order is reportable. In those situations, the "Stayed" action may be mentioned in the narrative.

PDBB advised that they will review the suspension codes.

6. **Allow Changes to Occupation/Field of Licensure in a Draft Report:** Several users would like to be able to change the Occupation/Field of Licensure Code on a draft report.

SRA reported that this is already scheduled as a future enhancement.

7. **Revise the Draft Report Format:** Several users would like the draft report to look more similar to the final version and noted that the draft field text should match the on-screen text for the user.

8. **Expand Specialty Field to Include and Nurse Specialties:** Several users would like to add a Specialty field to the nurse codes.
9. **Create Functionality to Designate User Permissions:** Several users would like it to be possible for entities to query only but not view the query responses (and vice versa – for entities to be able to view the query response without being able to submit a query).

SRA reported that this is already scheduled as a future enhancement.

10. **View Entity Privileges:** Several users would like to be able to see their current privileges displayed. This will allow them to see whether to expect HIPDB charges.

SRA reported that the entity's current privileges are displayed on the *Entity Registration Confirmation* screen, which is the first screen displayed when a user successfully logs in to the IQRS.

11. **Highlight Subject Database Fields:** Several users asked that the Data Banks highlight the required data fields on the Subject Information form, so that it is easier for users to update their subject database information and make it complete.
12. **ITP Client:** One ITP user that uses .NET within their organization recommended that, rather than providing an ITP client program, that the Data Banks allow users to make Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) remote procedure calls directly to the ITP server to submit queries and download responses.

Questions/Comments

1. **Guidebook Request:** One IQRS user requested to obtain the guidebook section that explains how to report a payment made for multiple practitioners. Chapter E, Reports pg. 11.
2. **A Particular Monetary Field Does Not Appear for ITP MMPR Reports 2004:** One IQRS user mentioned that he recently discovered that the monetary amount is being displayed in their ITP MMPR reports for the year 2004. This is most likely an issue within the user's software. The MMPR format was modified in February 2004 and other ITP users have not reported experiencing this problem.
3. **National Provider Identifier (NPI) Required:** Question raised regarding when the NPI will be a required field. According to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Web site (www.cms.hhs.gov), "Between May 23, 2005 and January 2, 2006, CMS claims processing systems will accept an existing legacy Medicare number and reject as unable to process any claim that includes only an NPI. Beginning January 3, 2006, and through October 1, 2006, CMS

systems will accept an existing legacy Medicare number **or** an NPI as long as it is accompanied by an existing legacy Medicare number. Beginning October 2, 2006, and through May 22, 2007, CMS systems will accept an existing legacy Medicare number **and/or** an NPI. This will allow for 6-7 months of provider testing before only an NPI will be accepted by the Medicare Program on May 23, 2007. Beginning May 23, 2007 CMS systems will **only** accept an NPI.”